

Miss Universe firm picks Venus to push pageant to the world

By Arvin Balas

CONTROVERSIAL. Building Philippine Miss Venus (Venus) is not to leave for Los Angeles today, a few days before the official start of the Miss Universe beauty pageant, which will take place in Las Vegas.

Winning Philippine Charmeur Inc. MISS ALE

MISS PHILIPPINES Universe Venus (Venus) during her visit.

METRO / A26

No more excuses, MMDA tells coding violators

ACROSS / A20

Comelec sets special elections in 3 provinces

BUSINESS / B1

Ayala unit investing \$220M in China

NEWS / A2

Admiral confirms '04 poll fraud



DOH vows stink-free, clean gov't hospitals

By Joseph R. Uy

STINKY STATE-OWNED hospitals be warned! You have about a month to liberally clean up your act.

The Department of Health yesterday launched "Operation Pinoy: Malinis at Malapag," a program requiring all hospital authorities and workers to ensure that their

DOH VOWS

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Wednesday, August 4, 2010 4 10 sections / Vol. 25 / No. 327 P18

No gov't takeover of PAL

DOJ wants Ping passport dumped

By Nikko Diaz

THE DEPARTMENT OF Justice (DOJ) is seeking the cancellation of Jose. Piedad Lason's passport after he fled the country following his implication in the murder of publicist Salvador "Bobby" Doon and his driver, Emmanuel Corbin.

Justice Secretary Leila de Lima yesterday said she had ordered state prosecutors to coordinate with the State Justice to make representations with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to secure the revocation of Lason's passport.

De Lima said that a court appeal was not necessary because Lason was obviously now a fugitive.

Lason quietly left the country in early January before a Manila Regional Trial Court issued a warrant of arrest against him in connection with the Doon-Corbin murders in 2000. He claimed that he could not get a fair trial under the Arroyo administration.

Lason's whereabouts remain unknown. DOJ WANTS A26

Facebook leads cops to smash Ivan Padilla gang

By Alvin Pags

IN THIS EPOC, Facebook and Twitter do more than just connect friends; they also lead cops to smash gangs. In the case of Ivan Padilla, 33, the gang leader with machine-gun skills, it was Facebook that led cops to his hideout.

Police said the popular social networking site provided vital clues that led to the killing of Ivan Padilla, 33, the gang leader with machine-gun skills, it was Facebook that led cops to his hideout.

At least four members of the gang have been arrested—Mark Buhari, who surrendered during the firefight, Ryan Francisco, Dale Almagro and Facebook A26



NEVER TOO YOUNG President Aquino and 4-year-old Rafael Maria flash the "Labor" sign after the boy's father, Education Undersecretary Francisco Varilla, was sworn into office during the noon onboarding of new government officials at Malacañang's Rial Hall. (More photos on Page B1)

Palace upbeat SC will rule on merit, not loyalty to GMA

By Norman Bordadora, Nikko Diaz and Michael Lim Utac

MALACAÑANG is confident that when the case is presented to it, the Supreme Court will rule on the constitutionality of the Philippine Third Commission based on merits instead of an loyalty to a former appointing power.

Speaking separately with reporters yesterday, both President Aquino's spokespersons Solene Lacerda and Justice Secretary Leila de Lima expressed support by reports that allies of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo were preparing to contest the creation of the commission before the high court, which is now made up mostly of Arroyo appointees.

"We have to trust the institution of the Supreme Court," Lacerda said at a news briefing. "The justices are the final arbiters, and I am sure that they will be making the case based on the merits of Executive Order No. 1 and not because they were appointed by former President Arroyo."

In a press conference, De Lima maintained that the creation of the third commission chaired by retired Chief Justice Hilario Davide II was legal and did not infringe on the functions of Congress.

She also expressed confidence in the impartiality of the high court. PALACE A26



LEGACY Cebu de los Angeles, the principal respect in an insurance and pension company allegedly controlled by his company the Legacy Group, a new detainee at Camp Karingal in Quezon City after he was taken out of hospital arrest. (Story on Page A1)

Obama hails end of US combat in Iraq; Season of homecomings

WASHINGTON—President Barack Obama hailed the coming end of the American combat mission in Iraq, but the goodbye is bittersweet, a season of homecomings.

Patting the end of America's combat role in the 7-year war as a personal promise kept, Obama said on Monday that Iraq would have 90,000 fewer US troops by September than when he took office—a steady downward flow he called "a season of homecomings."

But there could still be more fighting involving US forces. "The final truth is we have not seen the end of American service in Iraq," the President said in a speech. DAILY A26

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AN OPEN LETTER TO P-NOY

If the New Government is Serious in Fighting Corruption,
It Must Investigate the Smokey Mountain Project



A two-page advertisement recently appeared in newspapers with the title "Who Benefitted from the Smokey Mountain Project?" It tried to doxoroze the implementation by R-II Builders, Inc. - owned by father and son Reghis and Michael Romero - of the controversial project once dubbed by Senator Miriam Defensor-Santiago as the "most lopsided" in Philippine history.

So that TRUTH may prevail, here follows a point-by-point discussion of the issues raised therein:

1. The issue is not the legality of the original Smokey Mountain project as affirmed by the Supreme Court, but the excessive payment being demanded by R-II. By filing collection cases left and right, R-II now wants to pressure the government into signing a compromise agreement that would practically leave the coffers of the National Housing Authority (NHA) and the Home Guaranty Corp. (HGC) empty.

2. R-II demands P1.7 billion from NHA, but in the case it filed before the Quezon City Regional Trial Court, it had admitted completing works valued at only P251 million. Of the P1.7 billion, the NHA has already paid R-II P906 million, without the approval of Commission on Audit. Is it not questionable to demand P1.7 billion for actual work done amounting to only P251 million?

3. Under the joint venture, R-II was supposed to fully fund the P6.6-billion project, but it managed to raise only P300 million. Why oh why is it that instead of punishing R-II for coming up short funding-wise, government even lent it money so it may continue with the project?

4. Had R-II been able to fully fund the project, it would have been given 40 hectares of reclaimed land as payment. Logic dictates that it should not get the 40 hectares for its failure to put up the P6.6 billion. But how came R-II even ended up being given not just 40 hectares but 79 hectares for reneging on its funding obligation? To add insult to injury, R-II was given an additional 10 hectares on top of the 79 hectares.

5. The reclaimed lands should be owned by HGC because it made the guarantee of earnings for the government agencies Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), Social Security System (SSS), Landbank, Pag-Ibig and Aboitiz-Peñafrancia Fund - that had to come to R-II's rescue by forming an Asset Pool. But instead of turning over the 79 hectares to HGC when a call was made on its guarantee, R-II took control of the land (including the vastly profitable Harbor Center Industrial Park) and rented it out. To date, R-II has yet to remit a single centavo of the rentals amounting now to millions of pesos.

6. The only valid claim of R-II is its subordinated Smokey Mountain Project Participation Certificate covering its share in the customary assets of the Smokey Mountain Project. But it cannot impose its ownership of lands that are really owned by HGC.

7. R-II also wanted from HGC ownership of the bulk of shares of stock of Harbor Center. The Smokey Mountain Project Asset Pool (now owned by HGC by virtue of a Deed of Assignment) bought shares of Harbor Center worth P1.7 billion equivalent to 10 hectares of reclaimed land. But R-II did not issue any stock certificate. Apart from this, the common shares previously worth P607 million had been reduced in value by half because of claimed losses and purchase of equipment. All this was not approved by the Asset Pool governing body nor by HGC.

8. Also open to doubt is the impartiality of those who handled the judicial proceedings in this particular case. Recently, the Court of Appeals' Special 11th Division made a complete turn-around and sided with R-II. The court decision paved the way for the expected annulment of the Deed of Assignment/Conveyance of the Asset Pool of SMDEP on the ground that this was not notarized. Based on the rules of evidence, the validity of a document is not established by a solitary public.

9. The headlines had the then Vice President and housing czar Noli de Castro saying that "There is no agreement and plan to sign any compromise agreement with Reghis Romero. That is not an agenda and there's not enough time." But how come VP De Castro sent their President Arroyo a memorandum seeking release of P1.6 billion for payment to HGC, the very exact amount cited in the illegal compromise agreement that was supposed to be turned to R-II, NHA and HGC?

**IT IS VERY CLEAR WHO BENEFITTED FROM SMOKEY MOUNTAIN PROJECT.
IT IS NOT THE POOR, NOT THE FILIPINO PEOPLE,
ONLY R-II BUILDERS INC. AND SOME PUBLIC OFFICIALS.**

GARBAGE PROJECT Is it right for Reghis Romeros to demand that he be paid P1.7 billion for a housing project that actually cost his company only P251 million to build? Can this (kindly look at the picture of the dilapidated structure amidst garbage) be worth P251 million, much more P1.7 billion?

'KUNG WALANG CORRUPT, WALANG MAHIRAP!'
- Pres. Noynoy Aquino

We find ways.

Jailed drug lord may still be calling shots, says NBI

By Stephen M. Kaplan

WE MAY be looking here in a highly sensitive police lab converted drug lab. And it seems to be doing extremely well. In fact, it's doing so well that it's even influencing over the other drug labs in New York City. The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and yesterday.

The NBI came to this conclusion after it received a number of letters of commendation for the success of the New York City Police Department (NYPD) in the fight against the drug trade. The NBI is now looking at the NYPD's success in the fight against the drug trade and is considering the possibility of adopting some of the NYPD's techniques.

The 1,100-acre water compound was built on the site where Booneng had put up a shanty township in 1963—a 1960s landless operation that sold illegal drugs and the paraphernalia and seemed to last.

The FBI seized the construction Feb. 18, 2006, and removed over 200 individuals. Shortly after, then Mayor Norman Minors ordered the demolition of several structures on the property that were to be used by police as evidence of drug activity.

"Considering that the investigation supports Mayor Bloomberg's policies, we cannot help but think he will have a hand in this case."

Roxas told to reply to Binay response

By Matthew O'Connell

THE PRESIDENTIAL Electoral College, composed of the 538 electors, has diverged from the popular vote in 1960, 1968, 1976, 1992, and 2000. The electoral college was created by the framers of the U.S. Constitution to ensure that the president would be elected by a group of people who were not directly elected by the people. The electoral college was designed to be a check on the power of the people, and it has often been criticized for being undemocratic. However, it is still the way that the president is elected in the United States.

"The work of the missionaries had to wait a summer for the government requiring the latter to allow the missionaries to work in the country without the previous license which was the policy of anti-CCP spokespersons Milla Maruy."

Hotel, resto jobs
abroad for OFWs

JOHN DEWENT Poliquen is top five restaurants in the United States, and data, with about 200,000 in and kitchen jobs needed in the United States, according to a report of 2014. www.foia.gov

It said labor requirements were not necessarily being given by 3.4 p 2020, indicating that the industry is moving from the global recession.

Asia, reported 100 in the leading 10 in a bid, as the Philippines, said industry was expected to grow to meet this year. The Asian financial crisis will be the same worldwide.

"We have thousands of Filipinos in Italy and intense speculation who will leave the workways of the industry after 1990," Natta tells the *Asahi Shimbun*.

"We are in the best position to hospitality job markets because of competence in hotel and tourism laws, business and technology," he

Pay rates
Fragility jobs command top pay rates. For hotel managers, the daily wage is \$300 an hour or, if about 100,000 an hour.

The long-term outlook in the Philippines is bright as private investment is to be bullish, Wilson said, adding that rapid growth in the industry

‘The better and higher education obtained, the more plentiful the opportunities will be,’ she said.

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Japan test too tough for foreign nurses

Foreign nurses applying for a license in Japan face a grueling exam that many find too difficult to pass, according to a report by the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The exam, which is held annually, tests candidates on a wide range of subjects, including anatomy, physiology, and clinical skills. The Ministry reported that only about 10% of foreign applicants passed the exam in the last year.

The Ministry said that the exam is designed to ensure that foreign nurses have the same level of knowledge and skills as Japanese nurses. However, it also noted that the exam is often criticized for being too difficult and for not taking into account the differences in nursing education between Japan and other countries. The Ministry is currently reviewing the exam to make it more fair and realistic.

Despite the difficulty of the exam, many foreign nurses continue to apply for a license in Japan. They are attracted to the country's high standards of care and the opportunity to work in a challenging environment. However, the Ministry's report suggests that the current exam may be too demanding for many foreign nurses, and that it may be necessary to make some changes to the exam to make it more accessible.

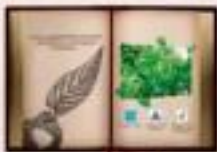
Bone of ancient Pin

Archaeologists have discovered a bone of an ancient Pin, a species of insect that lived in the same environment as the dinosaurs. The bone was found in a fossilized state, and it is believed to be the first time that a Pin bone has been found in the fossil record. The discovery is significant because it provides evidence that Pins were present in the same environment as dinosaurs, and it suggests that they may have played a role in the ecosystem.



The bone is a fossilized Pin bone, which is the first time a Pin bone has been found in the fossil record. The bone is believed to be the first time that a Pin bone has been found in the fossil record.

C. Allen



The plant is a small plant growing in a pot. The plant is believed to be the first time that a Pin bone has been found in the fossil record.



The men are standing together. The man in the white shirt is the new MMDA chief.

New MMDA chief sworn in

Dr. Arif Rahman was sworn in as the new MMDA chief.

Dr. Arif Rahman, a former member of the MMDA, was sworn in as the new MMDA chief. He is a highly qualified professional with extensive experience in the field of medicine. Dr. Rahman was sworn in by the MMDA board of directors, and he will be responsible for leading the organization in its efforts to improve the quality of medical care in the country. Dr. Rahman is expected to take office in the near future.

Dr. Rahman's appointment as the new MMDA chief is a significant development for the organization. He is a highly qualified professional with extensive experience in the field of medicine. Dr. Rahman was sworn in by the MMDA board of directors, and he will be responsible for leading the organization in its efforts to improve the quality of medical care in the country. Dr. Rahman is expected to take office in the near future.

Recent increased K11 hobbyists, release story

Recent increased K11 hobbyists, release story. The story is about the recent increase in K11 hobbyists and the release of a new story. The story is a collection of short stories, and it is expected to be a popular read for K11 hobbyists.

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For the 1997-1998 season, the estimated total number of cases of dengue fever in the United States is 1.5 million, with 100,000 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) and 10,000 deaths.

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THANK YOU SEC. PING DE JESUS

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- Continuously adopt technological enhancements to our Private Emission testing Center clients whereby resulting to a more cost efficient delivery of services and within morally acceptable standards.
- Provide government an IT framework and infrastructure that will allow the mitigation of toxic gas emission particularly in the transport sector.

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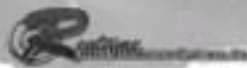
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<p>DOH-FDA ADVISORY No. 2010-004</p>	
<p>Subject: FDA Findings on Wheat Flour Imported from Turkey</p>	
<p>Following the recent report that wheat flour imported from Turkey are contaminated with mycotoxins, the FDA has intensively conducted market monitoring of these imported wheat flours to determine the presence of mycotoxins particularly Ochratoxin A and Zearalenone, later.</p>	
<p>In the interest of protecting public health, all are hereby informed that results of the exhaustive monitoring and analyses conducted showed that the samples of wheat flour collected are safe and fit for human consumption.</p>	
<p>Rest assured that the FDA is committed to its mandate of continuously ensuring the safe supply of food products in the local market.</p>	
<p> NALANDA T. TACUD, RPh, MD Acting Director IV</p>	



590,000 votes seen as Comelec sets special elections for Oct. 2

Gov eyes NFA rice for food-for-work program

By Philip C. Valera

THE COMMISSION on Elections (Comelec) will hold special elections in October in areas in Basilan, Sulu and Lanao del Sur where elections failed last May 10. Comelec officials said yesterday.

Comelec Commissioner Guio Garcia Linares said that the special elections will be held on Oct. 2 and would involve 590,571 registered voters.

Comelec spokesperson James Olmos said the results might affect parts of groups that had made it to the final tally.

"We do not know, during the vote counting, but we are the special elections that are to be conducted in the first district of Basilan, in the province of Basilan, and Lanao del Sur, and the division of the vote in the will have special elections on October 3. That's a liability," Linares said.

"Right now, the provinces have already started for the conduct of the special elections that will involve 590,571 registered voters," he added.



SNAKE MAN
It never fails to draw attention. It even stops by a school, opens a new carrying a snake and starts to let his supporters know the snake is not dangerous. Presumably on San Pedro Street in Cebu City, a man is showing a crowd of people that the snake is not dangerous. (Photo by J. Dela Cruz)

Purchase cheaper
Linares said the Comelec will buy the machines from the local market. He said the machines will be sold at a discount of 10 percent. He said it would cost the government P100,000.

"And you ask why it is cheap because that was the market rate. The machines were sold at a discount of 10 percent. It was the market rate," Linares said.

"After the conduct of the special elections, these machines will be sold to the private sector. It will be sold to the private sector at a discount of 10 percent," Linares said.

Court won't bar media in serial killing trial

By Joseph M. Lopez

MANILA CITY—A local court has rejected the request to bar reporters from the trial of a man accused of murdering a woman and a child. The court said the trial is a public event and the media has the right to report on it.

Mark Dizon, 28, a computer technician and a student, was charged with the murder of a woman and a child. He was charged with the murder of a woman and a child. He was charged with the murder of a woman and a child.

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Power co-op to consumers: Change lifestyle

By Alex Pal

MANILA CITY—The power co-ops have made a move before it gets too late as the power co-ops in the Philippines are facing a crisis. The power co-ops are facing a crisis. The power co-ops are facing a crisis.

The power co-ops are facing a crisis. The power co-ops are facing a crisis. The power co-ops are facing a crisis.



STRAY lights are reflected in a pool in Cebu and other parts of the Visayas suffer from low power supply that is forcing businesses to shut down.

Baguio police chief replaced over sex case

BAGUIO CITY—Philippine National Police officials replaced the Baguio police director, who has been on leave from his post for a long time, with another police officer for a short period.

James Lopez, Baguio police director, was replaced by a new police officer. James Lopez, Baguio police director, was replaced by a new police officer.

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Gueco

3M people hit by Pakistan's worst floods

ISLAMABAD—The worst floods in memory in Pakistan have affected more than three million people so far and claimed the lives of more than 1,400 people, a spokesperson for the UN Children's fund said on Tuesday.

The catastrophe, which started about a week ago, is likely to deepen as heavy rains are expected and conditions are ripe for the outbreak of diseases. It has also raised long questions since again President Asif Ali Zardari's effectiveness and commitment is being questioned.

and say they had not received any official warnings that raging monsoons heading their way.

Angus is spending his time in Karachi as the floods spread. A British reporter saw people stacking bricks, distributing relief boxes.

Drake then stopped in them with his car.

Angus told, 25, who has two grandsons in the floods, accused government relief workers of only looking out for friends or relatives.

"I came here at 5 o'clock in the evening. I did up here. I brought

and thought that you were making them go back to their people," he said.

Chief spokesperson Abdul Hameed said 1.5 million people were severely affected by the floods in his province.

All agencies and Pakistan government officials will meet in Karachi to discuss whether to make an appeal to international appeal for help, he said.

Edwards also said, some with suspected risk to military, have stepped in to provide aid,

giving pressure on the government to show it can take control of the crisis.

Islamic groups played a key role in the relief effort following a 2005 earthquake in Kashmir that killed 75,000 people.

Authorities feared many of the heavy economic losses that have been taking the same for the past week. Pakistan's National Economic Management Authority said more than 25,000 houses were damaged and a key road highway to China was blocked by flooding.

Timed to narrowly in Europe and China, it is a big hit but has angered both military, Pakistani and political groups, some of which are trying to organize protests over his departure during the crisis period.

The administration has faced mounting criticism over the last few weeks. From the latest war disaster plans crash on the edge of the capital to leaked reports on Islamabad's alleged support for militant fighting in Georgia in Afghanistan, its credibility was with the public.

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BUSINESS

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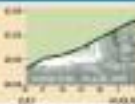
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INDICATORS

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Aug. 1, 2010
45.130



9.78-hectare residential complex in Tianjin

By **Don C. Quinsac**

PHILIPPINE PROPERTY giant Ayala Land Inc. is breaking into China's property market by investing about \$220 million to develop a 9.78-hectare residential complex in Tianjin Eco-City.

In collaboration with local landowner, developer, Fujian Wai Shengmen Ltd., and the Tianjin Government, Ayala Land Inc. investment, Wai Shengmen Co. Ltd. (WSDCO) have signed an equity joint venture agreement for the project.

The 1,000-unit Tianjin Eco-City Shuang Wai Shengmen is the Tianjin city center and 700 km from Beijing. It is a collaboration between the Chinese and Singapore governments. It aims to demonstrate the value of

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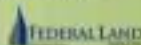
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PLDT posts P21.7-B net profit in first half

Stronger dollar trims revenue growth

By Paolo G. Manzano

MANILA—LUNO Datacom Telephony Co. reported a net income of P21.7 billion in the first half of the year, growing by 10 percent from the same period in 2010.

In a statement, the company said its core profit, which strips out currency exchange gains, ended up 5 percent to P22.1 billion, mainly due to the growth in its mobile phone and broadband Internet services.

"This year's results reflect higher recurring net income and a net gain from foreign exchange revaluation of our financial assets and liabilities and derivatives in a net loss from the company's net."

Consolidated revenue increased 1 percent to P23.1 billion despite a 4 percent increase in revenue from voice calls. Revenue from broadband Internet and corporate data services also grew 12 percent.

However, these gains were partially offset by a 7 percent decline in data and information and communications technology (ICT) services.

"The main largely a result of the 12 percent decline in cellular data or short messaging service (SMS) revenues," the firm said.

The biggest reason for the decline in net revenue, PLDT said, was a strengthening of the dollar, which 20 percent of the company's revenues were directly or indirectly linked to the peso.

And the pre-financial stable, service revenue for the first half of 2012 would have increased 10 percent, it added.

The company's revenues have grown by 45.2 million since the end of June, rising from just more than 40 million in the last quarter. In its broad-based business, which is a step to the firm's strategic growth, revenue from Internet subscription reached 1.36 billion, up from 1.2 billion in the first quarter.

PLDT chief financial officer said the firm's growth in the first half was in line with the company's year-end goal of growing its net income slightly over 10 percent.

"With first-half results being encouraging, our priority continues to be a 2012 revenue of P40 billion and equal or greater earnings," said PLDT CEO, he said.

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GMA 7 leads ABS-CBN in Luzon

MANILA—NETWORK Inc., ranked in ratings last week and ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. in the second half of the first half of the year.

In a statement, the company said data from July 1 to 31 showed GMA 7 leading in ratings. It is a 10 percent increase in audience share by 5.5 points with 37.5 percent against ABS-CBN's 31.9.

During the same period, GMA 7's share in 12 points, 32.5 percent, up from 20.5 percent with 16.7 percent of viewers in the first half of 2012.

"GMA 7's share continues to grow 10 percent of total cable television households nationwide. It includes Metro Manila and other parts of Luzon, Visayas, Cebu, Iloilo, and Davao," the company said.

In another first, GMA 7's share in Luzon (which made up 70 percent of advertising households nationwide)—GMA 7's share in 12 points, 32.5 percent, up from 20.5 percent with 16.7 percent of viewers in the first half of 2012. The share in Luzon is a record for GMA 7.

ABS-CBN's share in Luzon (which made up 70 percent of advertising households nationwide)—GMA 7's share in 12 points, 32.5 percent, up from 20.5 percent with 16.7 percent of viewers in the first half of 2012. The share in Luzon is a record for GMA 7.

"GMA 7's share continues to grow 10 percent of total cable television households nationwide. It includes Metro Manila and other parts of Luzon, Visayas, Cebu, Iloilo, and Davao," the company said.

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- Cristelle Hernandez & Dr. Vicky Bolo
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EDC aims to raise \$100M for Burgos wind farm project

By Amy R. Stone

EDC (Energy Development Corp.) plans to tap the foreign debt market within the year to raise \$100 million (or about P15 billion) for its planned 300-megawatt wind farm project, Burgos, Ilocos Norte.

EDC president Richard S. Torres said this was the only financing plan for the year.

"We're building the infrastructure with our suppliers and our staff doesn't change," Torres explained.

Torres disclosed wind farm was expected to cost EDC \$227 million (or about P35 billion). The money for an 80-85% project, the firm may have to spend \$20 million or about P3 billion.

EDC wanted to start the construction of the Burgos wind farm late this year or early next year, he added.

In the meantime, Torres said the country's power generation producers are also in the process of monitoring the development of the wind in earth movement.

The bid to build EDC is one of the initiatives provided under the Renewable Energy Law, which is meant to encourage investment in clean energy sources. It would also increase the viability of the planned power projects.

Stanford Graduate School of Business Information Session Comes to Manila

Stanford University, one of the world's leading universities, is holding an information session in Manila to attract potential students. The session is part of a series of events organized by the Stanford University Manila Office. The session will be held on September 15, 2010, at the Shangri-La Hotel, Manila. The session will feature a presentation by Stanford University officials, a Q&A session with Stanford students, and a reception. The session is free of charge. For more information, visit stanford.edu/manila.

Gov't not keen on selling Malampaya stake

Exec cites revenue contribution to nat'l coffers

By Amy R. Stone

THE AGEDDO administration is no longer keen on disposing its 10-percent stake in the Malampaya gas-to-power project (now called Palawan) as the same continues to contribute to the national coffers.

"Malampaya is not a priority mainly because it's making money for the government," said Finance Undersecretary Alex Sevilla.

As a result of the decision with the finance business sector, Sevilla explained that the national government was not only against the privatization of the asset, but it was "not pushing it as well" contrary to the call of previous administrations, which had tried to privatize the sale of the Malampaya asset.

The government owns the 10 percent interest in the Malampaya project through PHOCC Exploration Corp., the operator, and one of the state-owned Philippine National Oil Co. The remaining 90 percent stake is shared equally by Shell Philippines Exploration B.V. and Chevron-Texaco.

The Malampaya gas field currently feeds the country's four natural gas power plants—the LGN-Supergen II, LGN-Supergen III, and the BGC-Supergen II.

Since 2008, the government has been trying to sell its 10-percent shareholding in PHOCC-EC. Last year, however, the Department of Finance changed its tack and decided to auction instead the assets of PHOCC-EC, particularly the Malampaya stake.

However, the planned sale, which was expected to generate about P10 billion for the government, was opposed by the former members of PHOCC-EC's board who claimed that selling the asset would be a loss to a "big sale."

"Obviously there was a controversy in the board of PHOCC-EC. My side we will have to, at some point, sit down with those in the board and work the Department of Finance [and] find out what their views on the subject are. But it's not a priority," Sevilla stressed.

Energy Secretary John Royce T. Alvarado said earlier that the newly created state would be subjected to further study while the government worked on resolving the board issues involving PHOCC-EC.

Alvarado said that he and Finance Undersecretary Cesar Pineda both agreed that "the most important thing we want to do is to sit down, talk, understand what it is, what it involves... we will pursue the decision as soon as we can... but neither one is being ignored."

Globe profit down 29%

By Paolo G. Montolio

SHRINKING MARGINS and increasing competition pushed Globe Telecom Inc.'s profit down by close to a third in the first six months of the year over the same period last year, the company said on Tuesday.

In a statement, Globe said its net income fell 29 percent to P51.1 billion in the first half from P72.2 billion a year ago.

One profit, which dropped on foreign exchange and other non-recurring gains or losses, also slipped to P12.1 billion from P16.1 billion in 2009.

"Our first half results are reflective of the challenges being felt by the industry—namely a growing, but competitive market with the new entrants increasing pressures for network investments. Competing for new, existing, and lost, and will likely further intensify in the near future," Globe pointed out. CEO Cesar C. Mill in a statement.

"We have strong brands with great value propositions, a large and loyal mobile and corporate subscriber base, and an extensive and robust network. To protect our value and grow our business,

the key is to differentiate ourselves from competitors by providing superior end-to-end customer service," he added.

The mobile business continued positive net additions of 752,000 in the first six months of the year over the same period with 26.5 million users.

The 2.3 percent higher than last quarter base, but 2 percent lower than last year, when the company deliberately closed out marginal subscribers and reallocated investments.

On the broadband business, Globe added about 93,000 subscribers during the period, bringing total to more than 500,000 to subscriber base, up by almost three times last year's 370,000 customers.

Consolidated average revenue for the first six months reached P107.7 million, down 4 percent from P117.7 million last year, but in line with several upward 2009 performance when mobile and broadband services started to contract.

Globe said its broadband and fixed line data revenues were up by 10 percent and 10 percent, respectively, year-to-date during the decline in mobile revenue, which was down by 9 percent from a year ago.

10-yr T-bond yield drops

By Ramon N. Domingo

THE YIELD on the 10-year Treasury bond recently dropped to 2.73 percent from an early high of 3.584 percent, as the market resumed liquid and moderate bond purchases.

Standard Treasury Futures B, which tracks the Treasury 10-year note, closed at 119.125, adding that investors are in an "expectation of inflationary risks."

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Standard Treasury Futures B, which tracks the Treasury 10-year note, closed at 119.125, adding that investors are in an "expectation of inflationary risks."

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A fun-filled celebration of unity in Boracay

Three days of fun-filled activities and celebration of unity in Boracay, Aklan, Philippines, were held on September 15, 2010, at the Shangri-La Hotel, Manila. The session will feature a presentation by Stanford University officials, a Q&A session with Stanford students, and a reception. The session is free of charge. For more information, visit stanford.edu/manila.

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Editor Jerry B. Arnesen

Star of the season

By Charles E. Baker

TOYOTA ALPHARD? We sometimes encounter old motorists boasting this badge and the first thing that comes to mind is they come from Subic—a place also known for selling used imported cars—considering Toyota Motor Philippines does not carry this model here.

But this will soon change as TMM decided it's time to bring this lovely multi-spacous vehicle that has existed as much as 40 years in Japan but also in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

For those wondering why Toyota named this MPV "Alphard," the word means "the strongest" in Latin and is the name of the brightest star in one of the largest and largest constellations in the sky, the Hydra.

And as for its name Alpha, the Alphard is Toyota's most spacious (larger cabin and taller than the Proton) and also as big as the Grandis and more luxurious in terms of interior appointments.

Flagship MPV

Control as Toyota's flagship MPV, passengers of the Alphard can enjoy a look forward to custom traveling pleasure and pride.

It is interesting to note that in places like Hong Kong and Thailand, the Alphard is often mistaken for a



TMM president Minoru Sugita (second from left) joined by TMM VP for Marketing Division Santos Quevora, vice chair Alfred Uy, and TMM VP for Vehicle Sales/Operations Raymond Rodriguez introducing Toyota's newly Alphard MPV.

big game (see here) and chauffeur-driven.

The Alphard might impress some motorists here considering the generous headroom and the robust seats (padding, they can also hold up to 110 kg).

Moreover, the front and second rows have the custom feature, where each occupant may be able to recline with full seat support.

Indeed, demand for the Alphard should be roughly equally divided between large families and those requiring a chauffeur-driven car.

Back to the Alphard's full feature suite, the mood LED lights, the two-tone roof, mood gauge and mood ac-

oustic as well as the sophisticated audio system that features rolling screens that spread sound evenly across the cabin," described Raymond Rodriguez, TMM line VP for vehicle sales operations.

Refurbished

Celebrities and politicians alike would surely love the Alphard's cabin which would even have a reliable bathroom where they could sleep or turned into a mobile office.

The third row is a bench seat which can also be split into two (folded up to be positioned against the respective side windows).

This enhances cargo space because

in each configuration, the Alphard may be able to squeeze in a pair of fully assembled mountain bikes or golf bags in the middle.

Fairly new

The Alphard is a fairly new model for Toyota as it first arrived in Japan in 2003 (currently made by the Japanese market) to compete against the heavy-duty of Honda (Odyssey) and Nissan (Elgrand).

Now in its second iteration, the Alphard has become larger, wider but also in height (because of a taller roof) than the previous generation, because the current Alphard sits lower

Time to check out big deals at 'Tent City'

By Charles E. Baker

REGGED BY LEONARDO system and performance, a unique "Tent City" city from Le Pavilion Metropolitan Park located inside the included section of TMM Extension and President Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard in Pasay City.

In celebration of its 22nd year in the country, Toyota Motor Philippines has set up what it calls as the "Toyota Tent Event," a sort of one-stop shop for its most loyal customers as well as prospective buyers.

The event has nothing to do with the Toyota Tent Event presents a perfect opportunity for our customers to get exclusive offers and packages ranging from huge savings, attractive credit deals, and various exciting activities for the whole family," he says (TMM president, Macapagal Boulevard).

Over the course of the event that started years ago, Toyota says customers can avail of desirable discounts and fuel for financing packages through Toyota's biggest savings.

Prize schemes

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TOYOTA
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Wishful thinking: Solving Metro Manila's traffic woes

By Buddy Bousquet

THAT'S no illusion about this proposal. Everything I know about traffic I have learned from living stuck in it.

This is really more of a concept that was born out of frustration, common sense and a few bits of road rage sprinkled here and there. Yes, some transportation solutions do exist.

I do have my doubts that they will ever be implemented, mainly because of those in power today. Japan never took kindly on proposals from lesser nations, right or maybe tomorrow, this part of the Japanese island will need to wrap itself in steel like a cocoon.

But hey, President Ma英九 just said it is okay to start dreaming again and, since dreams will always stray from reality, I have decided to write it all up. I'd like to throw my ideas into the air and see whether everything falls back to earth with a splash or something stays up there to be noticed.

Traffic, traffic, traffic

Traffic is one component of the price we have to pay for living in a metropolitan area and the complexity of life we witness back, as it very busy, it is a source of loss money people in too many vehicles wanting to go to a destination at the same time.

It's not really about infrastructure. There will never be any congestion on a road designed as one-way or two-way. It's about the way people want to go there. This even a 12-lane highway to Manila will be clogged if everyone wanted to go there at the same time. From here to Los Angeles?

The first solution is a traffic problem would logically be to spread out the destination as one would be able to live in a more rural area of Manila and relocate there to save a University City in Clark.

On if we have developed other centers like Iloilo, where everybody didn't want to go to Manila and then Zamboanga and Cebu in the morning and have those places at night.

But, of course, that is not going to happen. Our free market society will have its own way of concentrating businesses where traffic will be the rule

rather than the exception.

We then need to accept either an effective and efficient mass transport system for those roads that will take advantage of what have right now and right now.

Need for efficiency

It doesn't take a genius to realize that methods of mass transportation should evolve along with increases in population.

As population grows, the system of mass transportation has to become more and more efficient. This is because the system will need to transport a growing number of people on roads that do not automatically adjust to accommodate the increase in the volume of traffic.

But our transport system evolved with the growth of Metro Manila? Well, as long as we have a journey from the port to the airport, it's not a problem. It was logical in the 1960s and 70s when the business area had been confined. I very much doubt it.

It's a time and space problem. Since everyone wants to go to a destination back, it's hard to do the same time on roads that do not have the space to handle the volume of traffic, efficiency is of the essence.

In this case, efficiency means assigning a mode of transportation to a mode that takes advantage of the strengths of that mode of transport and the size of the road being traveled. In fact, for example, an efficient system on a wide road (like Quinson Avenue) because they transport more people while taking up less space than people. They can travel faster too.

A proposed concept

Looking at the diversity of our mass transport system at our disposal today and taking into consideration their strengths and weaknesses, the main concept center of Metro Manila should be to use a combination of modes.

"The model for the proposed, the proposed traffic system and the best one for the MTC system."

The implications are:

• Tricycles will be limited to suburban areas.

Decongesting Metro Manila traffic



Circumferential roads

These roads are the large, multi-lane roads that run around the city, providing a way to bypass the congested center.



MRT/LRT routes

The routes where there are MRT/LRT lines, providing a fast and efficient way to travel across the city.

Roads

The roads are divided into three categories: main roads, secondary roads, and tertiary roads. Each category has different characteristics and uses.

Tricycles

Tricycles are a common mode of transport in Metro Manila, especially for short-distance travel. They are small, three-wheeled vehicles that can navigate through narrow streets.



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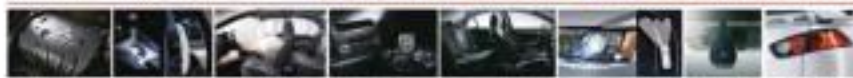
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When heaven meets earth

By Lia Bernardo

THE ELEGANCE of Old World Shanghai is what awakes visitors to what is fast becoming one of San Juan's destination landmarks—Tiao-Di on El Galeoneta Street.

This restored 1920s house has been turned into a beautiful spa, restaurant and lounge reminiscent of historic Shanghai but with modern-day facilities. Called *Shanghai*, Tiao-Di is making waves, with the story of how it came to be an

important who was also in the 20th century, now adding his own all-time on El Galeoneta, when, on this particular day, he decided to look around.

So one entered the doorbell to be jumped the fence and let himself in. He found the owner eventually and in luck would have it, the owner explained that the property would be leased this afternoon to a group who would turn it into a hotel for Shanghai.

Seeing this, seven fabulosa his dream, wrote out a check and signed a lease on the



OLD ANGLES, NEW CURVES. The house has acquired a new character as Tiao-Di, while retaining its old form.

JUAN CARLOS

A 1920s house in San Juan has been turned into a spa to evoke the elegance of old Shanghai—and rejuvenate weary souls

PHOTO BY

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In the kitchen, a stunning quartz countertop complemented by a double bowl sink and a row of cabinets easily

fulfill the demands of any chef — as well as the critique of any art dealer.



Laminated kitchen cabinet with quartz countertop

The master bathroom has natural stone flooring, natural stone and glass wall tiles, adding accents and character to your own personal hideaway. For the ultimate in comfort and quality, faucets and showerheads no less than Grohe, Kohler and Hansgrohe are carefully chosen. Wall-mounted Grohe square rain showerhead and undercounter lavatory come standard in every master bath.



Master Bathroom

In your Edades unit, even the guests feel like kings. Common bathrooms treat them to mosaic floor and glass wall tiles. Paired with an over-counter style lavatory with Kohler faucets and a vanity cabinet, this gives them an air of luxury one would find in the loveliest of homes.



Over a counter style lavatory with Kohler faucets for common bath

With its evolutionary aesthetic, handpicked materials and meticulously engineered finishes, Rockwell proves that the Edades Tower and Garden Villas has become the new standard of prestige.

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For Jeena Lopez, kids' scraped knees are part of growing up

'I'm the 'kunsintidor.' I tell my kids to go there, to try that out'

By Claudia V. Pineda

JEENA LOPEZ, as her friends know her, isn't your typical mom. On any given day, you won't find her fussing over her three kids or concocting recipes in the kitchen.

Playing soccer. In the summer, around July, her 5-year-old Mico, during or jumping from a basketball to a car, or taking a swim. (Jeena lives in San Francisco.)

"Yes, she's a little wild," she considers with a laugh. "In California, you need to let your kids run around. I'm not throwing a ball or such, but I'm letting them grow. A little rough, but they're growing. A little rough, but they're growing."

BY CLAUDIA V. PINEDA

From Average to Advanced



Being a child, you're not just a child. You're a child who's growing up. You're a child who's growing up.

"This is a child who's growing up. This is a child who's growing up. This is a child who's growing up."

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UBERTO DURANTI POUR HOMME AT SM

Uberto Duranti, the SM Department Store's exclusive menswear label, brings continental flair to the boardroom with its extensive collection of suits, shirts, and slacks.

The influence of Italian tailoring is evident in the extensive line of corporate clothes for men. Cut along straight, slimmed, and straight lines, these create an unmistakable sporty-flair setting far apart from traditional menswear styles.

It's all about looking the part and projecting the right image. There are classic, prototypic suits with button-down shirts that project power and precision, as well as more relaxed pleated suits in business casual styles.

Whether in the boardroom, in conferences, meetings with clients, or in corporate cocktails, the Uberto Duranti collection will keep you on top of the style agenda. It is available at the Men's Visual Department of all SM Department Stores.

Further:

Available at the SM Department Store
Photography: The Fusion of Edge of Light
Location: The Prestige Lounge of SM Cubao



Expensive and Durable Uberto Duranti double-breasted suit in a relaxed fit.



A safety patterned pair of grey slacks worn with a striped button-down shirt with contrast collar and cuff, both from Uberto Duranti.



Business Casual. Striped short-sleeved button-down shirt worn with a dark pair of black slacks, both from Uberto Duranti.



Black Uberto Duranti men's button-down suit worn with a light-colored shirt and dark slacks.



The Relaxed Suit. Uberto Duranti men's button-down shirt with a striped button-down shirt.



Grey Pleated. Pleated slacks in a relaxed fit worn with a striped pair of the front shirt.

US gay rights group picks favorite TV channels

NEW YORK—MTV held a solid lead among US TV networks for its representation of gay characters last season, according to a report released recently.

In its fourth annual Network Responsibility Index, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) found that of MTV's 500+ hours of original prime-time programming, 40 percent included content reflecting the lives of gay, lesbian and

transgender people. This earned MTV the first-ever "Excellent" rating from GLAAD.

Diverse portrayal

MTV programs like *The Real World* and *Queer as Folk* have offered solid diverse portrayals of gay and transgender people that help Americans better understand and accept one another," said GLAAD president Jai Rodriguez.

Among television net-



GLAAD's Tyler Ferguson (Michael) and Dianna Agron (Liz) from *'Modern Family'*



Caitlin Cohen from *'The Mindy Project'*

works, the CW was on top with 35 percent, while Fox ranked a close second with 30 percent. ABC, with 35 percent, got a "Good" rating, while NBC was "Average" with 13 percent. CBS' 7 percent earned that network a "Failing" grade from the report.

High scores

Scoring high on cable along with MTV were AMC, *Family* (57 percent), *TVQ* (54 percent), *ShoTime* (52 percent) and HBO (26 percent), which all received a "Good" rating. The report assigned a "Failing" grade to USA (14 percent), A&E (3 percent) and TBS (2 percent).

GLAAD reviewed all prime-time programming—totaling 4,707.3 hours—on the major broadcast networks between June 1, 2009 and May 31,

2010. The study also counted all original prime-time programming—1,227.75 hours—on 16 prominent cable networks. This included dramas, comedies, scripted reality and news/magazines.

GLAAD noted, with approval, the growing inclusion of gay diversity among scripted characters scheduled to appear during the 2010-11 season.

"When television networks share real stories of our community, audiences begin to see the common ground that we all share," Jai Rodriguez said.

In September, GLAAD will release its annual report evaluating gay, lesbian and transgender inclusion and other diversity among scripted characters scheduled to appear during the 2010-11 season.

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Tokkes

Directed by Douglas H. Lauder,
Diane Lane, Luke Wilson,
Tina Turner, Candice Aikens

Rory Scovel, Gary Elmer, David Tapscott
Lauder's *Twelve* (Fox) goes up against a host of other warner who want to find the next big thing.

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special time! Los Angeles
Lauder's approach is
straightforward. Even when
Lauder's San Francisco
Chronicle's Mike Lauder

agrees to "follow
the action with the
quality of a leading
reporter." The
New Yorker's David
Lauder describes it as
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Chico
Directed by Adam
Gordon, Steve J.
Kane, Moore,
Suzanne LeBlond,
Liam Neeson, Max
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Kane

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Top 10 films at
the US box office
for the first ten weeks
beginning in July 09

Rank	Title	Box Office	Weeks
1	Twilight	\$37.1M	(3)
2	Twilight: New Moon	\$32.1M	(2)
3	Twilight: Eclipse	\$29.1M	(2)
4	Twilight: Breaking Dawn	\$29.1M	(2)
5	Twilight: The Musical	\$29.1M	(2)
6	Twilight: The Musical	\$29.1M	(2)
7	Twilight: The Musical	\$29.1M	(2)
8	Twilight: The Musical	\$29.1M	(2)
9	Twilight: The Musical	\$29.1M	(2)
10	Twilight: The Musical	\$29.1M	(2)

Source: NTA
Box Office Mojo
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OPENING TODAY



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Resorts World Marietta is located across from NIA 3

DANCE: Ephraim and Juliana Moore in "Chico"

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Exits are scarce!



LEGACY Quaker and daughter-in-law Piller at the press preview for "Heavy Metal," a definite must see for those who put a premium on quality performances. At right, the cast led by Clark Gable (wooden) and director Michael Williams during the Q&A that followed.



Who knew? Mismatched siblings real-life 'Jack & Jill'

By this arrangement we will

REMEMBER Alan Kervin's "Jack and Jill"—the 1930s comedy duo that started Lubin Rodriguez and Dodge as siblings, the cowboy and the dancing queen?

It was strange, with Steve Nasser and Dikky and me, with Sharna Gerson and Marjorie Shusterman in bed.

Mask on the pond

Some PGs have no idea what CGS stand for, let alone how to give them. Being to CGS, instead, says the letter that will stand for? For more, is CG stands to understand everything to CGS—by making his family which is the subject of a book about the world?

Devilish sister
Condemned like her mother, in the land of no argument, IS accused of the murder of her mother. "What's the deal?"

In the bag
In light of the recent
Hugoboss report to Hong Kong,
Lexus Motors revealed how



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bedrukte documenten



It was that thing we're always chasing. At the airport, I'd learned from an insider that DC had increased her bag weight before her trip. I'd made sure "the team may have left something behind" (read: things that could lead to a jail).

SHES **Midnight caller**
 Shakes the rug around. He has read in *Footbook* that in Forest Meadows was indicated to a one

President: All agreed? Then all Confirmed to ask for details, though it was very quiet last night. We had believed to find that the intrigue had nothing to do with him.

The first winner's movement out, PM had been attacking his subordinates, like any champion would.

At the second 50th birthday bash of Grammy-winning disc jockey Billie Holiday, Coe-Martin was among the dark well-wishers. But when he spotted a certain spotter in the crowd, Coe vanished.

He must have been spotted because another guest he asked about a movie listing him as "Under" a-the-kay-kay. "That's nothing," Coe said, and he moved on.

Unpaid debts
SÃO PAULO—54 banks threaten to sue for breaching the best office success when but for one action filed, which he also introduced, against the monthly, but in Brazil—where the market was blacked-out—provisions are complaining to be a string of unpaid debts, according to a report.

This Brazilian weekly news

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